28.11.1972 Kavanoor 4.30 to 6.00 P.M

Cloudy - Sunny - Day - very warm.

Cycled up 8 K.M in the Kavanoor Road Only a single Painted Stork and few Egrets were there in the tank. This year also there will not be building nests due to some reason. People there of the opinion that they will come for breeding only in the January. On the way I saw ~~many~~ sandpiper and Plovers in large numbers. The Spotted Sandpipers are in breeding plumage and probaly they must be late arrivals. Stints also were there with L.R. Plover. A grey and Pied wagtail were there in the Vaigai

98. Rufous backed Shrike
99. Indian Wood Shrike

30.11.1972 Elamanur Vaigai Taravai 6.30 to 7.30 A.M.
5 K.M

Near this village Vaigai river bed is very wide and with oozing swamps. Thousands of Plovers - L. Ringed, Kentish and Stints were there. When they fly all at once they made such "zzeers" noise like that of teals. Golden Plover, Indian Reef Heron, Marsh Sandpiper, Grey Herons Terns and so many other birds were there. The approach is difficult and the birds fly here and there making watching difficult.

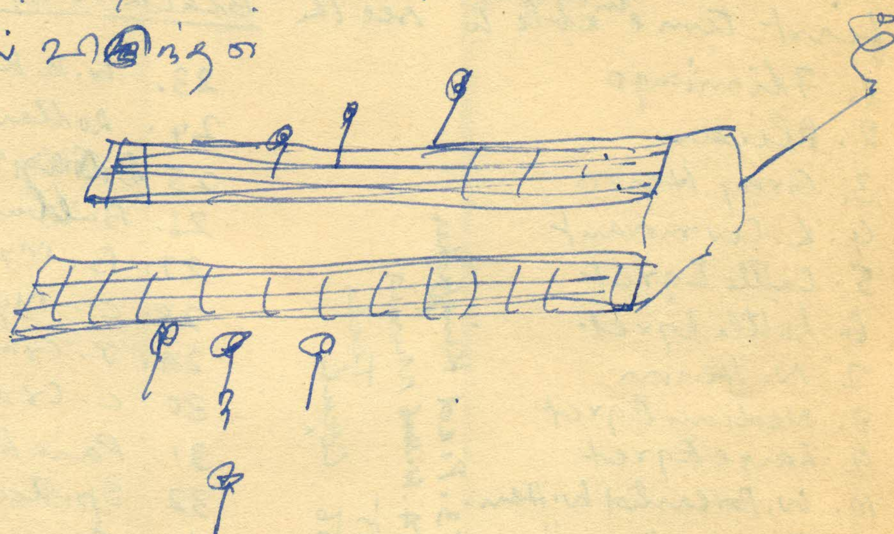
One Indian Reef Heron in Grey plumage is chasing away another Egret many times (probably Median Egret.

100. Golden Plover

2.12.1972 நயினார்கோயில் ரோடு 2.6 K.M
6.30 - 7.15 A.M

வயலில் ஒருவன் உப்புக்கொத்தி களைப் பிடிப்பதைப் பார்த்தேன்.

அரைமணி நேரத்தில் 3 Little stint களும் 4 spotted sandpiper களும் அவன் வலையில் விழுந்தன



ஏழெட்டு பார்வைப் பறவைகளை வைத்து இருபலகாழத்து கம்பளை வைத்துக் கொண்டு 50 மீட்டர் தூரத்தில் அமர்கிறான். ஒன்றிரண்டாகப் பறந்து வந்து அமரும் பறவைகள் ஏற்றால் உட்கார விட்டால் உடனே வலையைப் பறித்தாலே அகப் பட்டுக் கொள்கிறது.

நூறு குருவிக்காரர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். தொண்டியில் மண்டபத்தில் மீன் உணக்கும் வேலைக்குச் செல்கிறார்கள்.

25 NP க்கு Little stint வாங்கினேன்

7-12-72 Naimaskoil Rd - Swamp 5 K.M 6.30 to 7.45 A.M.

about one c.m. Rain after a long dry spell - depression condition - 8" below level water

To day am able to see lot of Sandpipers and Plovers. Flimingos were in the Peria Kannai as a huge flock. Pelicans were also there. For the first time in the open able to see the Black Winged Slit

1. Flimingo
2. Plican
3. Grey Heron
4. L. Cormorant
5. Cattle Egret
6. Little Egret
7. N. Heron
8. Median Egret
9. Large Egret
10. W. Breasted W. Hen.
11. Red. W. Lapwing
12. Spotted S. Piper
13. Common "
14. L.R Plover
15. Golden Plover
16. K. Plover
17. Stint
18. Snipe
19. [illegible]. Sandpiper
20. ~~Falcon~~ ?
21. P. Kite
22. B. Kite
23. W.B. King Fisher
24. Roller
25. [illegible] Strike.
26. Bulbul
27. B. Myna
28. C. Myna
29. J. Crow
30. C. Crow
31. Parakeet
32. Spotted Dove
33. Sparrow
34. Black Winge Slit
35. Pigeon
36. Redwinged Skylark
37. Richards Pipit
38. Indian Pipit
39. Bush Lark
40. Sunbird
41. Warbler
42. C. Bee Eater
43. Blue tailed Bee Eater
45. Swallow
46. Palm swift
47. ... Swift
49. Black Winged Slit / Common Bee Eater
50. Godwit
51. Indian Whiskered Tern
52. Brown Headed Gull
53. Pied Kingfisher
54. W. Headed Munia
55. Teals
56. Coucal

9.12.72 - திருப்புவனம்). வைகை River bed 6 k.m East - 6.45-7.30 a.m

Went by cycle able to see few Painted Storks and Plicans. They flew away. Plovers and Sand Pipers are in very large numbers But the oozing sand bed made it difficult to observe.

57. Painted Stork. 1
58. Green Shank 2
59. Golenden Backed Woodpecker 3
60. Spotted Munia 4
61. Jungle Babbler
62. Yellow throated Sparrow
63. Black headed Cuckoo.
64. Hoopoe
65. Baya Weaver

One man told me that early afternoon is idle time for observation but grazing Cattle may be distrubing at that hour and how I should make another visit and try to indentify the allied and sub species of Plovers and sandpipers.

14-12-72 Kavanoor
Periakanmai Swamp } 3.30 to 6.00 P.M

Water level Raised by 5 C.M stood at 5.5 Meters. Rains about 2 MM in the morning - Sunny weather.

By cycle I went upto Kavanoor and no trace of Pelicans or Painted storks Breeding. One or Two Teals visible far away. Few Paddy birds in breeding plumage. ~~Streaked~~ Striated Baya with yellow in the head and breast Breeding - A Brown Shrike with tinges of rufuous in the breast observed. Teals are numbers - Egrets ~~f~~laying in flocks in the evening have black claws and feet. About 300 Cattle Egrets near 2 KM Mark in the paddy fields. In the evening about 5.50 while sun setting huge flocks of Swifts about 500 in number fly over Periakanmai and they formed huge ball like shape and rose very high in the sky. The Kestrel was in the same tele. post. List of Birds seen in the next page. I saw One Hoopoe ~~was~~ taking dust bath on the tar road for more than two minutes.

14-12-72 3.30 to 6.00 Periakanmai Swamp
Kavanoor

List of Birds seen

1. Painted Stork (6)
2. Grey Heron
3. Cattle Egret (500)
4. Little Egret
5. Median Egret
6. Great Egret
7. Paddy Bird
8. Little Green Heron
9. Black winged Stilt (2)
10. Wood sandpiper
11. Common sandpiper
12. Curlew S.P or Dulin
13. Godwit
14. White Breasted water hen
15. Common Teal
16. Kestral
17. B. Kite
18. P. Kite
19. Marsh Harrier (69)
20. W.B. King Fisher
21. Roller
22. Brown shrike (70)
23. R.W. Bulbul.
24. Parakeet
25. Redwinged Lark
26. Richard's Pipit
27. Sparrow
28. C. Crow
29. J. Crow
30. C. Myna
(66)-31. Striated warbler
32. White throated Munia
(68)-33. Striated Weaver (Breeding)
34. Drongo
35. Creasted Pied Cukoo
36. Palm Swift.
37 Another white Breasted swift
38 Swallow
39 Parakeet
(67) 40 Indian Wren-warbler.
(71) 41 Tree Pie

15-12-72 - Sakkarai kottai Kammai - Kilakkarai Road
5.30 P.M to 6.00 P.M
Bright Sunny Evening

I went upto 1.6 k.m in the Kizhkarai Road. Sunset beyond Sakkarai kottai Kanmai is very beautiful. The Egrets breeding near the church all belong to Little Egret category. 100-200 Swallows were flying over the tank opposite to the church. Some have pintail just two inch long. White spots flashed when they fan out their tail. In the tank near Murugan temple Black Winged stilts about 10 were in breast deep water. Teals in large numbers came in flocks to the Sakkarai kottai kanmai. ~~I saw two Cor~~ after 6.05 p.m when it was dark. I saw two Cormorants flying westward. One of the cormorants came down in the tank near Murugan Koil. Mynas comes towards the town for ~~night halting~~ roosting. Crows assemble in large numbers.

The Tree Warbler in the college is always very active between 10-30 to 12-30. - Small or just about the size of Sunbird. Breast and abdomen pure white - single -

17.12.72 to Vaigai River Bed Returns via Mandapam Road

3.30 to 6 P.M – WIND From North East – Rain last night very little.

Due to high velocity of the wind I found it very difficult to see birds in the vaigai river bed. Gold Plovers and L.R. Plovers are in large numbers. Painted Storks in large numbers were there. In this season I saw a pair of ~~Pale~~ Harrier. While returning I was able to see many birds in the Mandapam Road.

~~Cattle Egret~~
~~Indian Robin~~
~~Red Vented Bulbul~~
~~Indian Gr Bee Eater~~
79. Indian Robin
80. Golden Oriole

(72) Pale Harrier
73. Yellow Wattled Lapwing – 30 –
74. Blyth Reed Warbler (15 to 20)
75. Baybacked Shrike
76. White Headed Babbler
77. Snipe – Black in colour dry zone
78. ~~Tree~~ Warbler

For the first time I was able to to see some 30 to 40 Yellow Wattle Lapwings near Pattam Kattan in a fallow land. A Snipe also was there west of Pattankattan on the road in small [illegible] some 100-150 Indian Green Bee Eaters are roosting. They make lot of noise.

21.12.72 Uttarakosamangai – 6.45 to 10.45 A.M.

Low Depression – Cloudy – drizzling – no sun shine

I cycled upto Uttarakosamankai nearly 16 miles and it exaust me completty. In the Uttarakosamangai kanmai there as Karuvel but no birds and in the kamai at 8 km mark some Teals and Mallars were visible in the middle. I saw a Kestral which prenes its feathers sitting on Palmairah tree. Birds seen.

Little Egret
R.V. Bulbul
Painted Strok
Grey Heran
Swallow
Palm Swif
83 Pintails
House Crow
Myna
Rose Ring Parakeet
Sparrow
Y. throated Sparrow
Golden Oriol ♀
Ashy Swall[ow] [S]hrike

81 Kestral
82 Little Greble
84 Mallard
L. Ringle Plover
Common sandpiper
86. Green Sanpiper
Purple Sunbird
Warbler
Striated Warbler
87 White bellied Drongo
Paddy Bird
L. Cormorant
Drongo
Grey Shrike
Rufous Shrike

Spotted Dove
Rock Pigeon
Brown Headed Gull

Pariah Kite
Br. Kite Juvenile
Pied Crested Cukoo

Wood Sandpiper
Pied Wagtail
Golend Backed Woodpecker

24.12.72 Madurai to Ramnad 2.00 PM To 5.30 P.M.

By Train - Cloudy - drizzling.

At Madurai one Shikara was flying near South gopuram. While travelling in train I was able to see ~~many~~ Drongos and Rollers in large numbers at least 50 species might be there along the railway track. Between Paramakudi and Manamadurai the Birds are Many. I saw two Hoopee perching on the wires

1. Drongo
2. Roller
3. Hoopie
4. Lark
5. P. Kite
6. B. Kite
7. Another Kite
8. Peregrine Falcon
9. L. Egret
10. P. Bird
11. Kingfisher (W. B)
12. ~~Eastern~~ Heron
13. R. R. Plover
14. J. Crow
15. C. Crow
16. House sparrow
17. Myna
18. W. Bellied Drongo
19. Pied Wag Tail
20. Common B. Eater
21. Blue Tailed B. Eater
22. Ashy Swallow Shrike
23. Palm Swift
24. Swallow
25. R. R. Parakeet
26. Coucal

25.12.72 Ramanad to Tiruchendur

6.30 to 10.30 A.M State Bus

VIA - Keelakarai - Ervadi - Sayalkudi - Suran Kottai - Tutokurin - Kayal Pattan.

Cloudy drizzling weather - rain the previous evening.

Near Tiruppulani I saw 15 to 20 Painted Storks and one Indian Reef Heron. A Singe Pelican was also there. Near Ervadi Warblers Pigeons, Doves and Larks are in large numbers in the scrub jungle like red soiled land. Near Surankottai Yellow Wattled Lapwings were frequently seen. 100 of B.B. Finch Larks, are on the road and they are flying away when the bus approaches them. Near Tuticorin I saw 25 to 30 Painted Storks flying towards sea coast. In Thiru Chandur I saw swallows sitting on the sea shore taking rest. Terns and Gulls were flying towars north in 5 to 6 parties. flying very low.

27.12.72 தெற்குத்தாரவை - 2 KM beyond - Sand dry. cultivation

in perevious night - windy - sunny day

I went cycling beyond Therku Tharavai even though no birds were seen in the sallow waters in the try cultivation beyond I saw many kind of Shrikes (1) Bay Backed (2) Rufous (3) Brown (4) Cuckoo - Marsh and Montegu Harriers were flying. another Harrier or Eages also seen. Three Pelicans flew over head. Sunbirds, Warblers, and Bee-Eaters were also there in large numbers. Pipits were there. But the absence of Larks notable. It may be called the land of Shrikes and warblers. They were in such large numbers. One Tawny Eagle were there. While returning near Therqutharai in the wet Grassland Gloden Plovers were in large numbers and when a Harrier came around the Grassland L.R. Plovers and Curlew Sandpipers or Dulins flow in large group making loud noise. (88) Cukoo Shrike

(90) Mouse Warbler (89) Montaga or Marsh Harrier.

29.12-1972 Peripattanam - 3.00 P.M to 5.30 P.M

10 KM East in the Mandapam Road then another 10 KM South towards sea - Total 20 KM Bus Fare 60 NP - One Town Bus - on the way 9(8) Bng 450 - two small salt water lagoons - Cultivation around Coconut groves - Paddy fields - Sea coast sandy - Palmaira groves - Very neat and beautiful -

In the sea coast no sign of sand pipers or Plovers - on the way in a small lagoon 50 to 100 Gulls actively fishing most of them Brown Headed Gulls. On the sea coast I saw on Kesteral few Bluetailed Bee Eaters - Common Bee Eaters - Ashy Swallow Shrikes and two kinds of Swift (Palm - White Breasted).

I saw two Brahminy Kites with locked claws on the ground fighting or playing for a long time when third bird came fly over them they flew away.

91. Lesser Black Backed Gull

30.12.72 Kavanoor 4.30 – 6.30 35 NP.

WATER LEVEL – 13 ~~possible~~ 5.00 Feet.

Cycling upto Kavanoor – Sunny weather –

On the way I saw few crows, two Grey wagtails and few curlew sandpipers taking both in the road side ~~[illegible]~~ at 2.K.M Mark. In the Kavanoor kanmai there is no nests. But about 10-15 Painted Storkes flew towards the Kanmai. There is not a single water fowls there. While returning I saw the Kesteral on the same Telegraph Post and I saw another one near the 2.4 K.M on a Telegraph post about 6.10 P.M. It flew away and landed on a 2004 again flew to another Telegraph Post. The Kesterals Back was not clear brick red. Its tail sides of ~~sides~~ are black. The red and black spot are on the tail also. When they flew the under part is almost White. The ~~one~~ Kestrel I saw at Uttara kosamangai and at Devipattanam were smaller in size and brick red in colour.

Near 5 K.M Mark I saw hundred of Pipits they were going towards east for roosting. In the vaigai bed two Grey Wagtails were there. Near Peria Kanmai 10 to 12 Open billed storks and in the Kanmai only 2 Pelicans and hundreds of Ducks were there.

92. Pied Wagtail
93. Grey Wagtail
94. Rufous Shrike
95. Open billed Stork
96. Tawny Eagle

31.12.72 Mandabam 8 to 10 A.M

partly Cloudy day - Went by 8.00 A.M Express upto Mandam - Bus Fare 1-15 Bus reached Mandabam by 8.50 A.M.

On the way at 14 KM mark is the Bridge on Vaigai then for 3 to 4 KM the Road runs along the Estuary and Uchi pulli at 20 KM - byond uchipulli there is swamp like pools on either side of the road and grass lands. Golden plovers, Black winged Stilts, L.R. Plovers and other birds are in large numbers.

Near Mandabam camp is the Fisheries centre around it - Thorn forest - In the fishing port near Mandam Gulls are in large numbers. They are not afraid of human beings. Black Headed, Brown Head, and Lesser Black Backed are there. Two Kesterels were there near the station I saw one Hoopoe breeding.

On the whole its a nice place If one had time one can see lot

- List Enclosed -

Birds seen on M[illegible]d[illegible]ram Trip 31-12-1972

1 Kestral - 2 ✓
2 Small Bee Eater ✓
3 Grey Wagtail
4 Whiskered Tern
5 Br.H. Gull
6 Bl. H. Gull
7 Lesser B-B-Gull
8 Greater B B Gull
9 B. Kite
10 P. Kite
11 Golden Plover
12 L. R. Plover
13 G. Shank
14 Tawny Eagle
15 Swallow
16 Palm Swift
17 L. Egret
18 C Egret
19 P. Bird
20 Pigeon
21 Curlew Sandpiper
22 Dunlin
23 Lark
24 Shrike ✓
25 Yellow Wattled Lapwing
26 Parakeet
✓ 27 Cormorant
28 Black Winged Stilt
29 Green Shank
30 Roller
31 Drongo
32 Ashy Swallow Shrike
33 Babbler
34 H. Crow
35 Sparrow
36 R Dove
37 Coucal
38 Wood Shrike
39 Malkouka
40 Warbler
41 J. Crow
42 Hoopoe
43 Myna
44 B. Myna
45 Indian Robin

Birds seen Near
Bamban Rameswaram
Island
31.12.1972

97. White Bellied Sea Eage
98 Whimbrel
99 Curlew
100 Oystercatcher
101 Crab Plover
102 Dusky Reds
103. Great Black Backed Gull
104 Indian Reef Heron
105 Marsh Sand Piper
106 Redshank
107 Green Sand piper
108 Black-Tailed Godwit

31.12.1972 Rameswaram Island-Pamban-
11.00 A.M to 3.00 P.M.

Dull sunny day. I got down at Pamban first went to southern shore There is a huge marsh like that of Devipattanam. Hundreds of Whimbrels, Curlews, Oyster catchers, Crab Plovers Redshanks, Godwit, Gulls, Terns, Plovers were there. There may be other birds which I failed to identify due to my failure of regognestion due to the sun against. The sea was at low ~~tide~~ tide I walk some 200 ~~M~~ Meters into the sea. I should visit that place another time

On the ~~North~~ Northern side I saw two White Bellied Sea Eagles ~~nesting near the light house in the Ecchi tree. They were silent and one bird is sitting in the nest.~~

- List Enclosed -